

A SYSTEM AND METHOD OF PROVIDING  
A VIRTUAL APPLIANCE

Abstract

The present invention provides a universal information appliance management system capable of utilizing a distributed object system without regard to whether the appliance is embodied as a hardware device or embodied as software capable of being executed by any other hardware device such that the hardware device is indistinguishable from the software device. In addition, the invention provides a virtual reality interface including a dynamic virtual reality object capable of adapting to interaction by the user. Additionally, the invention provides a system and method for providing distributed functionality over a network including receiving a request to perform a task on a first digital information appliance, the task requiring a resource not included on the first digital information appliance. The digital information appliance locates a second digital information appliance over a network, the second digital information appliance including the resource. The request from the first digital information appliance is transferred to the second digital information appliance so as to enable the task to be performed on the second digital information appliance, and a result of the task performed by the second digital information appliance is returned to the first digital information appliance.